"Fastener Driving Tool For Spacing Object From Substrate"

What is claimed is:

- 1. A nosepiece for a fastener driving tool for driving fasteners for holding and spacing an object at a predetermined distance from a substrate, said fastener driving tool having a housing, a driver blade within said housing for driving said fasteners, and a power source for driving said driver blade, each of said fasteners including a bridge portion, a first prong extending in a driving direction from said bridge portion, a second prong spaced from said first prong and extending generally parallel thereto in the driving direction from said bridge portion, wherein said second prong is substantially shorter than said first prong, said nosepiece comprising:
 - a trailing end coupled to said housing of said fastener driving tool;
 - a substrate contacting end;
 - a channel for axially guiding said driver blade and said fastener in a driving direction toward said substrate;
 - a slot proximate said substrate contacting end laterally extending into said channel for receiving said object; and
 - a curved ramp within said channel, wherein a portion of said ramp is positioned between said slot and said substrate contacting end, said ramp being for interfering with the path of said second prong to bend said second prong toward said first prong to hold said object between said second prong and said bridge portion.
- 2. A nosepiece according to claim 1, wherein said ramp is generally concave with respect to said slot.
- 3. A fastener driving tool for driving fasteners for holding and spacing an object at a predetermined distance from a substrate, each of said fasteners including a bridge portion, a first prong extending in a driving direction from said bridge portion, a second prong spaced from said first prong and extending generally parallel thereto in the driving direction from said bridge portion, wherein said second prong is substantially shorter than said first prong, said fastener driving tool comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a driver blade within said housing for driving said fastener in the driving direction;

"Fastener Driving Tool For Spacing Object From Substrate"

- a power source for driving said driver blade;
- a nosepiece having:
 - a trailing end coupled to said housing;
 - a substrate contacting end;
 - a channel for axially guiding said driver blade and said fastener in the driving direction toward said substrate;
 - a slot proximate said substrate contacting end laterally extending into said channel for receiving said object; and
 - a curved ramp within said channel, wherein a portion of said ramp is positioned between said slot and said substrate contacting end, said ramp being for interfering with the path of said second prong to bend said second prong toward said first prong to hold said object between said second prong and said bridge portion.
- 4. A fastener driving tool according to claim 3, wherein said driver blade further comprises a pocket therein at the driving end of said driver blade for forming an indentation in said bridge portion of said fastener.
- 5. A fastener driving tool for driving fasteners for holding and spacing an object at a predetermined distance from a substrate, each of said fasteners including a bridge portion, a first prong extending in a driving direction from said bridge portion, a second prong spaced from said first prong and extending generally parallel thereto in the driving direction from said bridge portion, wherein said second prong is substantially shorter than said first prong, said fastener driving tool comprising:
 - a housing;
 - a driver blade within said housing for driving said fastener in the driving direction;
 - a power source for driving said driver blade;
 - a nosepiece having
 - a first piece with a trailing end coupled to said housing and a substrate contacting end
 - a second piece having a trailing end pivotally coupled to said housing proximate to said trailing end of said first piece and a substrate contacting end, wherein

"Fastener Driving Tool For Spacing Object From Substrate"

- said second piece is pivotable between a closed position wherein said second piece is adjacent to said first piece and an open position wherein said second piece is angled with respect to said first piece;
- a channel between said first piece and said second piece when said second piece is in the closed position for axially guiding said driver blade and said fastener in the driving direction toward said substrate
- wherein said first piece and said second piece each include a slot proximate said substrate contacting ends of said pieces laterally extending into said channel, wherein said slots are aligned with one another when said second piece is in said closed position so that said slots form a path for said object
- wherein one of said pieces includes a curved ramp positioned within said channel, a portion of said ramp being between said slot of said one of said pieces and said substrate contacting end of said one of said pieces, wherein said ramp is concave with respect to said slots for bending said second prong of said fastener toward said first prong to hold said object between said second prong and said bridge portion.
- 6. A fastener driving tool according to claim 5, wherein said curved ramp is on said first piece.
- 7. A fastener driving tool according to claim 5, wherein one of said pieces includes a groove with ledges for guiding said fastener in said driving direction.
- 8. A method of holding and spacing an object at a predetermined distance from a substrate, comprising the steps of:
 - providing a fastener having a bridge portion, a first prong extending in a driving direction from said bridge portion, a second prong spaced from said first prong and extending generally parallel thereto in the driving direction from said bridge portion, wherein said second prong is substantially shorter than said first prong; positioning said object proximate to said substrate;
 - driving said fastener so that said first prong is driven into said substrate to a predetermined depth and so that said object is between said prongs;

Atty Docket # 14320

"Fastener Driving Tool For Spacing Object From Substrate"

bending said second prong toward said first prong;

holding said object between said second prong and said bridge portion so that said object is spaced from said substrate by said predetermined distance.